

control device and video monitor and a plurality of computers, a method of selectively connecting the workstation to the computers, comprising:

a) producing overlaid video signals for display on the video monitor of the workstation in response to defined keyboard or cursor control device signals received from the workstation;

b) detecting keyboard and cursor control device signals entered in response to the overlaid video signals and setting an internal condition of a switch of the type that routes keyboard and cursor control device signals between the workstation and a computer in order to select which of the plurality of computers will receive the keyboard and cursor control device signals;

c) transmitting keyboard and cursor control device signals from the workstation to the selected computer, and transmitting keyboard, cursor control device and video signals from the selected computer to the workstation--.

Remarks

The present amendment and request for reconsideration is filed in response to the Office Action mailed September 28, 1998.

In the Office Action, Claims 11-37 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,721,842. In response, Applicants hereby submit a properly executed terminal disclaimer to overcome the rejection.

Applicants have added new method claims 38-43 that relate to selectively routing keyboard and cursor control device signals through a switch in response to video signals that are created and displayed on a monitor of the workstation.

In addition, Applicants are submitting with this response some additional prior art that the Applicants wish the Examiner to consider. In particular, Applicants submit a technical data manual for the MC141543 On-Screen Display Chip illustrated in FIGURE 12A of the application. The

1 General Instrument Receiver Manual discloses a satellite receiver that produces an on-screen display
2 in much the same fashion as a video cassette recorder. Finally, Applicants are enclosing a translation
3 of German Utility Model 93 03 716.3 which discloses a switch for routing keyboard and video
4 signals between a workstation and a computer but does not disclose the use of an on-screen
5 programming circuit to control which computer is selected.

6 In light of the present amendment, Applicants submit that Claims 11-35 and 37-43 are in
7 condition for allowance. It is therefore requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection and pass
8 this case to issue at the earliest possible date.

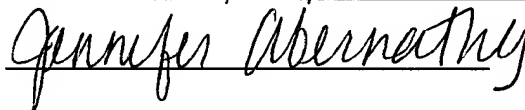
9 Respectfully submitted,

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16 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a
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18 Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on 10/27/98.

19 Date: 10/27/98 

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